

REMARKS

The present invention relates to an interlayer for laminated glass, and laminated glass formed therewith.

In the Office Action dated March 18, 2008, claims 1 - 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based in U.S. Patent 6,911,254 (Fisher et al) in view of U.S. Patent 6,579,608 (Kondo).

In this Amendment, claims 3, 5, and 7 have been canceled, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate claim 3, and new claim 8 has been added..

Applicant respectfully submits that presently pending claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 are nonobvious and patentable over the cited art of record, as explained below.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The interlayer for laminated glass of the present application has, *inter alia*, the two layers: (i) a heat ray shielding resin layer containing a heat ray shielding fine particle, and (ii) a color tone compensation resin layer toned to have a color complementary to the color tone of the heat ray shielding fine particle.

If a coloring agent which has a color complementary to the color tone of the heat ray shielding fine particle is added to the above heat ray shielding resin layer, an oxidation-reduction reaction occurs between the coloring agent added and the heat ray shielding fine

particles, and therefore the heat ray shielding resin layer is colored to have a yellow tone, and the transparency of the laminated glass is impaired. Therefore, the heat ray shielding fine particles and the coloring agent which has a color complementary to the color tone of the heat ray shielding fine particle cannot be used together in the same layer. It is important that a heat ray shielding resin layer containing the heat ray shielding fine particles and a color tone compensation resin layer toned to have a color complementary to the color tone of this heat ray shielding fine particle must be separately formed and laminated. See paragraphs [0006], [0030] and [0031] of the specification.

The ultraviolet absorbing resin layer is also important. The heat ray shielding fine particles cause the oxidation reaction accompanied by coloring due to ultraviolet rays. The ultraviolet absorbing resin layer represses this reaction and maintains the interlayer for laminated glass having an excellent transparent property and a natural color. See paragraph [0036] of the specification.

Fisher et al disclose a multilayer interlayer comprising polyvinyl butyral layer containing heat ray shielding particles sandwiched between encapsulation layers. However, Fisher et al never discloses that the heat ray shielding fine particles and the coloring agent which has a color complementary to the color tone of this heat ray shielding fine particle must be separated in different layers. Please see column 4, line 24 to column 5, line 2 of Fisher et al. A typical formulation to achieve a gray color is described. However, therein, L_aB_5 and pigments are contained in the same layer. With

this formulation, an oxidation-reduction reaction easily occurs between L_aB_6 and pigments, resulting in a yellow tone.

Furthermore, Fisher et al fail to disclose the addition of an ultraviolet absorbing layer. Kondo discloses such a layer. However, the effect of the present invention of repressing the oxidation reaction of the heat ray shielding fine particles can not be predicted from Kondo .

Accordingly, withdrawal of the obviousness rejection with respect to the present claim is respectfully submitted to be proper.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of remaining claims 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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